

TORRANCE Marches with Time!

TWENTY-FIVE years ago, a potato and bean patch. As far as the eye could see were only agricultural products. But Jared Sidney Torrance could vision things invisible to most men. He saw a happy, industrial community, balanced in nature, fulfilling its destiny of furnishing material products for the betterment of mankind.

Yet it is doubtful if even his vision were broad enough to include present-day Torrance, fifth largest city in area in the county which incidentally includes the world's biggest municipality.

The original Torrance tract included about a square mile. When the city was incorporated, May 21, 1921, the area included was 3.82 square miles. Five years later, February 9, 1926, saw the addition of Northwest Torrance, whose 4.14 square miles more than doubled the area of the city and carried its borders west to meet those of Redondo Beach.

Annual Annexations

THIS was but the beginning of a five-year period of expansion which saw a new portion added each year. Largest of the additions was that of January 18, 1927, when Meadow Park brought in 5.91 square miles and extended Torrance to the ocean.

After a previous balloting had failed by a close margin, WALTERIA voted, March 12, 1928, to join its 0.39 square mile with its larger neighbor.

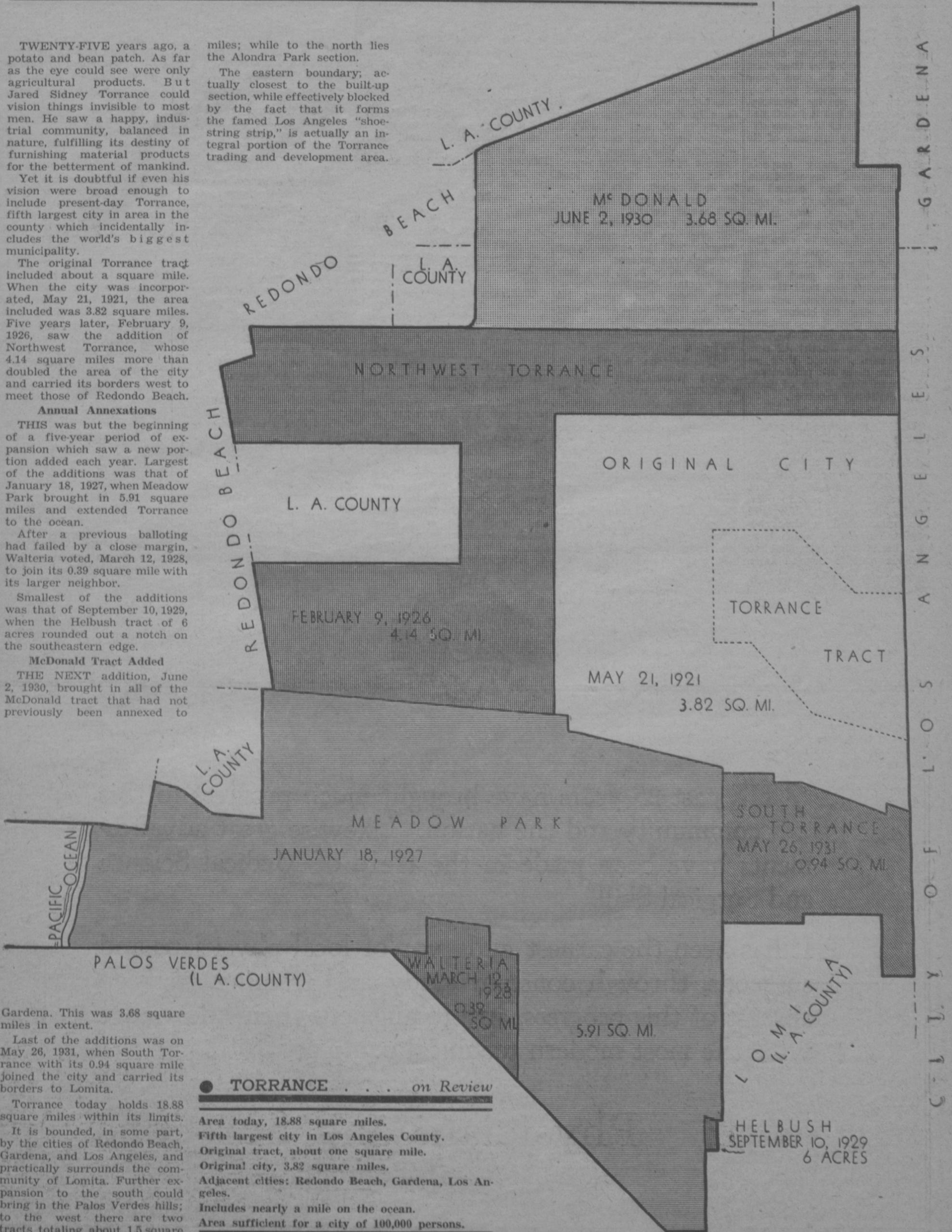
Smallest of the additions was that of September 10, 1929, when the Helbush tract of 6 acres rounded out a notch on the southeastern edge.

McDonald Tract Added

THE NEXT addition, June 2, 1930, brought in all of the McDonald tract that had not previously been annexed to

miles; while to the north lies the Alondra Park section.

The eastern boundary, actually closest to the built-up section, while effectively blocked by the fact that it forms the famed Los Angeles "shoe-string strip," is actually an integral portion of the Torrance trading and development area.



Gardena. This was 3.68 square miles in extent.

Last of the additions was on May 26, 1931, when South Torrance with its 0.94 square mile joined the city and carried its borders to Lomita.

Torrance today holds 18.88 square miles within its limits.

It is bounded, in some part, by the cities of Redondo Beach, Gardena, and Los Angeles, and practically surrounds the community of Lomita. Further expansion to the south could bring in the Palos Verdes hills; to the west there are two tracts totaling about 1.5 square

● TORRANCE . . . on Review

- Area today, 18.88 square miles.
- Fifth largest city in Los Angeles County.
- Original tract, about one square mile.
- Original city, 3.82 square miles.
- Adjacent cities: Redondo Beach, Gardena, Los Angeles.
- Includes nearly a mile on the ocean.
- Area sufficient for a city of 100,000 persons.